

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method of securely downloading and installing a patch program in a plurality of computing devices, each computing device having a processor, program memory and patch memory, said method comprising the steps of:

~~transmitting said patch data to said computing devices over a nonsecure channel in an encrypted manner utilizing a first key;~~

~~receiving first encrypted patch data at a computing device and decrypting said first encrypted patch data utilizing said first key to generate clear patch data;~~

~~verifying the integrity of the contents of said clear patch data; and if said verification passes, encrypting said clear patch data using a second key and storing the resultant second encrypted patch data in a data memory;~~

~~retrieving said second encrypted patch data from said data memory and decrypting said second encrypted patch data using said second key to generate clear patch data; and loading said clear patch data into said patch memory.~~

encrypting the entire contents of said patch program using a shared key to generate a first encrypted patch program, said shared key being known to a plurality of computing devices;

transmitting said first encrypted patch program to a plurality of said computing devices over a nonsecure communications channel;

receiving said first encrypted patch program at a computing device;

decrypting said first encrypted patch program utilizing said shared key to generate a first clear patch program;

re-encrypting the entire contents of said clear patch program utilizing a unique key known only to and hardwired into that particular computing device and storing a resultant second encrypted patch program in memory;

upon subsequent reset, retrieving said second encrypted patch program from said memory and decrypting said second encrypted patch program utilizing said unique key to generate a second clear patch program; and

loading said second clear patch program into said patch memory for execution by said computing device.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said patch ~~data~~ program is received from a satellite adapted to forward said patch data transmitted from a central data center.
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said patch ~~data~~ program is received from a terrestrial repeater station adapted to forward said patch data transmitted from a central data center.
4. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said nonsecure channel comprises a satellite downlink.
5. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said nonsecure channel comprises a terrestrial wireless link.
6. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said computing device comprises the data processor portion of a radio receiver adapted to receive a signal transmitted from a satellite downlink.
7. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said computing device comprises the data processor portion of a radio receiver adapted to receive a signal transmitted from a terrestrial repeater station.
8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is known to all computing devices in said system.
9. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is known to a portion of computing devices in said system.
10. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein each individual computing device comprises a unique said second key not known to other computing devices~~ further comprising the step of verifying the integrity of the contents of said first clear patch program.
11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second encrypted patch ~~data~~ program is stored in random access memory (RAM) integral to said device.
12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second encrypted patch ~~data~~ program is stored in random access memory (RAM) located in a host device in communication with said computing device.

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second encrypted patch ~~data~~ program is stored in nonvolatile memory (NVM) integral to said computing device.

14. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second encrypted patch data is stored in nonvolatile memory (NVM) located in a host device in communication with said computing device.

15. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 10, further comprising the step of deleting said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said device in the event said verification fails.

16. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 10, further comprising the step of deleting said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said device and subsequently rebooting said device in the event said verification fails.

17. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is hardwired within said computing device.

18. (currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 63, ~~wherein said second key is hardwired within said computing device wherein said software means is operative to verify the integrity of the contents of said first clear patch program and if verification fails, to delete said first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from memory.~~

19. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is stored in nonvolatile memory external to said computing device.

20. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is derived from a unique ID burnt into said computing device.

21. (currently amended) An apparatus for securely downloading and installing a patch data program in a plurality of computing devices, the entire contents of said patch data program encrypted at a central location using a shared key known to a plurality of computing devices to generate a first encrypted patch program which is transmitted over a nonsecure communications channel in an encrypted manner using a first key, comprising:

~~patch memory adapted to store said patch data;~~  
~~data memory;~~

~~a processor;~~

~~software means operative on said processor for:~~

~~receiving a first encrypted patch data transmitted to said computing devices and  
decrypting said first encrypted patch data utilizing said first key to generate  
clear patch data;~~

~~verifying the integrity of the contents of said clear patch data; and if said verification  
passes;~~

~~encrypting said clear patch data using a second key and storing the resultant second  
encrypted patch data in said data memory;~~

~~retrieving said second encrypted patch data from said data memory and decrypting  
said second encrypted patch data using said second key to generate clear patch  
data; and~~

~~loading said clear patch data into said patch memory;~~

patch memory adapted to store said patch program;

data memory;

a processor;

software means operative on said processor for:

receiving said first encrypted patch program transmitted to said computing devices  
and decrypting said first encrypted patch program utilizing said shared key to  
generate a first clear patch program;

re-encrypting the entire contents of said clear patch program utilizing a unique key  
known only to and hardwired into that particular computing device and  
storing a resultant second encrypted patch program in said memory;

upon subsequent reset, retrieving said second encrypted patch program from said  
memory and decrypting said second encrypted patch program utilizing said  
unique key to generate a second clear patch program; and

loading said second clear patch program into said patch memory for execution by said  
computing device.

22. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said patch data program is received from a satellite adapted to forward said patch data transmitted from a central data center.

23. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said patch ~~data~~ program is received from a terrestrial repeater station adapted to forward said patch data transmitted from a central data center.
24. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said nonsecure channel comprises a satellite downlink.
25. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said nonsecure channel comprises a terrestrial wireless link.
26. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said computing device comprises the data processor portion of a radio receiver adapted to receive a signal transmitted from a satellite downlink.
27. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said computing device comprises the data processor portion of a radio receiver adapted to receive a signal transmitted from a terrestrial repeater station.
28. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is known to all computing devices in said system.
29. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is known to a portion of computing devices in said system.
30. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, ~~wherein each individual computing device comprises a unique second key not known to other computing devices~~ wherein said software means is operative to verify the integrity of the contents of said first clear patch program.
31. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said data memory comprises random access memory (RAM) integral to said computing device.
32. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said data memory comprises random access memory (RAM) located in a host device in communication with said computing device.
33. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein data memory comprises nonvolatile memory (NVM) integral to said device.

34. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said data memory comprises nonvolatile memory (NVM) located in a host device in communication with said computing device.

35. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[21]]~~ 30, wherein said software means is operative to delete said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said device in the event said verification fails.

36. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[21]]~~ 30, wherein said software means is operative to delete said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said device and subsequently reboot said computing device in the event said verification fails.

37. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is hardwired within said computing device.

38. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is hardwired within said computing device.

39. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is stored in nonvolatile memory external to said computing device.

40. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is derived from a unique ID unique among all computing devices and permanently burnt into said computing device.

41. (currently amended) A system for downloading and installing a patch data program on a plurality of communication platforms, comprising:

encryption means for encrypting the entire contents of said patch program using a shared key known to a plurality of communication platforms to generate a first encrypted patch program;

transmission means for transmitting said first encryption patch data program over a nonsecure communications link to said a plurality of communication platforms wherein said patch data is transmitted encrypted utilizing a first key;

receiving means in each communications platform adapted to receive said first encrypted patch data program over said nonsecure communications link;

a data processor adapted to receive said first encrypted patch data program from said receiving means;

a host device adapted to communicate with said data processor; and

said data processor comprising:

patch memory adapted to store said patch data program;

data memory;

processing means;

software means operative on said data processor for:

~~receiving a first encrypted patch data transmitted at a computing device and  
decrypting said first encrypted patch data utilizing said first key to  
generate clear patch data;~~

~~verifying the integrity of the contents of said clear patch data; and if said  
verification passes;~~

~~encrypting said clear patch data using a second key and storing the resultant  
second encrypted patch data in said data memory;~~

~~retrieving said second encrypted patch data from said data memory and  
decrypting said second encrypted patch data using said second key to  
generate clear patch data; and~~

~~loading said clear patch data into said patch memory.~~

receiving said first encrypted patch program and decrypting said first  
encrypted patch program utilizing said shared key to generate a first  
clear patch program;

re-encrypting the entire contents of said clear patch program utilizing a unique  
key known only to and hardwired into that particular computing  
platform and storing a resultant second encrypted patch program in  
said memory;

upon subsequent reset, retrieving said second encrypted patch program from  
said memory and decrypting said second encrypted patch program  
utilizing said unique key to generate a second clear patch program; and  
loading said second clear patch program into said patch memory for execution  
by said processing means.

42. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said transmission means comprises means for transmitting said first encrypted patch data program from a central data center via a satellite to said plurality of communication platforms.

43. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said transmission means comprises means for transmitting said first encrypted patch data program from a central data center via a terrestrial repeater station to said plurality of communication platforms.

44. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said nonsecure link comprises a satellite downlink.

45. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said nonsecure link comprises a terrestrial wireless link.

46. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said communications platform comprises a portable or fixed radio operative to receive, demodulate and decode a signal broadcast via satellite.

47. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said communications platform comprises a portable or fixed radio operative to receive, demodulate and decode a signal broadcast via a terrestrial repeater station.

48. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said first shared key is known to all communications platforms in said system.

49. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said first shared key is known to a portion of communications platforms in said system.

50. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, ~~wherein each individual communications platform comprises a unique second key not known to other communications platforms~~ wherein said software is operative to verify the integrity of the contents of said first clear patch program.

51. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said data memory comprises random access memory (RAM) integral to said data processor.

52. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said data memory comprises random access memory (RAM) coupled to said host device.



53. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein data memory comprises nonvolatile memory (NVM) integral to said data processor.

54. (original) The system according to claim 41, wherein said data memory comprises nonvolatile memory (NVM) coupled to said host device.

55. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~[[41]]~~ 50, wherein said software means is operative to delete said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said communication platform in the event said verification fails.

56. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~[[41]]~~ 50, wherein said software means is operative to delete said ~~patch information~~ first encrypted patch program and said first clear patch program from said communication platform and subsequently reboot said communication platform in the event said verification fails.

57. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said ~~first~~ shared key is hardwired within said data processor.

58. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is hardwired within said data processor.

59. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is stored in nonvolatile memory external to said data processor.

60. (currently amended) The system according to claim 41, wherein said ~~second~~ unique key is derived from an ID unique among all communication platforms and permanently burnt into said data processor.

61. (currently amended) A method of securely downloading a patch program in a plurality of computing devices each having a processor, program memory and patch memory, said method comprising the steps of:

~~transmitting said patch encrypted utilizing a first key to said plurality of computing devices over a nonsecure channel, wherein said first key shared among said plurality of computing devices;~~

~~receiving a first encrypted patch at a computing device and decrypting said first encrypted patch utilizing said first key to generate a first clear patch;~~

~~verifying the integrity of said first clear patch; and if said verification is successful,~~  
~~encrypting said first clear patch using a second key, wherein each computing device has a~~  
~~second key unique thereto; and~~  
~~storing the second encrypted patch in a data memory.~~  
encrypting the entire contents of said patch program using a shared key to generate a first  
encrypted patch program, said shared key being known to a plurality of computing  
devices;  
transmitting said first encrypted patch program to a plurality of said computing devices over  
a nonsecure communications channel;  
receiving said first encrypted patch program at a computing device;  
decrypting said first encrypted patch program utilizing said shared key to generate a first  
clear patch program;  
verifying the integrity of said first clear patch program; and if said verification is successful,  
re-encrypting the entire contents of said clear patch program utilizing a unique key known  
only to and hardwired into that particular computing device and storing a resultant  
second encrypted patch program in memory.

62. (currently amended) The method of claim 61, further comprising the steps of:

upon subsequent reset, retrieving said second encrypted patch program from said [[data]]  
memory;  
decrypting said second encrypted patch program using said second unique key to generate a  
second clear patch program; and  
loading said second clear patch program into said patch memory for execution by said  
processor.

63. (currently amended) An apparatus for securely downloading a patch program in a plurality of computing devices, the entire contents of said patch data program encrypted using a shared key known to a plurality of computing device to generate a first encrypted patch program that is transmitted over a nonsecure communications channel in an encrypted manner using a first key shared among said plurality of computing devices, comprising:

a processor;  
volatile patch memory coupled to said processor and adapted to store said a second clear  
patch program;  
data memory coupled to said processor;

software means operative on said processor to:

~~receive a first encrypted patch at a computing device and decrypt said first encrypted patch utilizing said first key to generate a first clear patch;~~  
~~verify the integrity of said first clear patch; and if said verification is successful,~~  
~~encrypt said first clear patch using a second key, wherein each computing device has a second key unique thereto; and~~  
~~store the second encrypted patch in a data memory.~~  
receive said first encrypted patch program and decrypt said first encrypted patch program utilizing said shared key to generate a first clear patch program;  
verify the integrity of said first clear patch; and if said verification is successful,  
re-encrypt the entire contents of said clear patch program utilizing a unique key known only to and hardwired into that particular computing device and store a resultant second encrypted patch program in said memory.

64. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein said software means is further operative to:

after each subsequent reset, retrieve said second encrypted patch program from said data memory;  
decrypt said second encrypted patch program using said ~~second~~ unique key to generate a second clear patch; and  
load said second clear patch program into said patch memory for execution by said processor.